

REMARKS

This communication is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated January 29, 2007. By this communication, the specification and claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Support for the subject matter added to independent claim 1 can be found, for example, in Figure 3, at page 7, lines 15-20 and in the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 30 of the disclosure. Claims 1-6 remain pending.

Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants have amended this claim to include FeNi36, which is the generic reference of Invar®. For convenience, Applicants have provided herewith a copy of an entry of Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invar>) as proof of this claim. Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Duboc, Jr. et al* (U.S. Patent No. 5,541,473). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As described in Applicants' disclosure and shown in Figure 2, for example, an anode plate 200 has an anode electrode 220, a fluorescent layer 230, and a black matrix 240 from on a front plate 210. Spacers 300 are bonded to the black matrix 240 of the anode plate 200 and supported by the mesh grid 400.

Claim 1 encompasses the aforementioned features and recites a field emission display comprising, among other elements, an anode plate having a black

matrix and fluorescent layer and spacers that are bonded to the black matrix of the anode plate and supported by the mesh grid.

In contrast, the *Duboc, Jr.* patent teaches that spacers 230 are used to separate a grid 210 formed on a baseplate 201 and a faceplate 220 (Fig. 2). *Duboc, Jr.* provides little insight into how these spacers are formed with respect to the faceplate 220 and baseplate 201 and merely teaches that they (spacers) support the force caused by differential pressure between the internal vacuum pressure and the external atmospheric pressure outside the flat CRT (col. 8, lines 37-39). The *Duboc, Jr.* patent does not teach or suggest that a black matrix is formed on the faceplate. As a result, *Duboc, Jr.* certainly cannot teach that spacers are bonded to a black matrix of the anode plate as claimed. Because the *Duboc, Jr.* patent fails to teach every element recited in claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established and request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons given above by virtue of their dependency. These claims are further distinguishable over the applied art based on the additional subject matter recited therein.

For example, on page 4 of the Office Action, the Patent Office alleges that the *Duboc, Jr.* patent teaches that an SiO₂ insulation layer is formed on a mesh grid by printing as recited in Applicants' claims 3 and 5. The Patent Office attempts to support this position by citing a portion of the *Duboc, Jr.* patent, which describes the insulation layer as a ceramic layer that contains SiO₂. Applicants submit that a ceramic layer and an SiO₂ layer are not necessarily interchangeable. As is known in

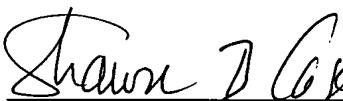
the art, ceramics and particularly glass ceramics as described by *Duboc, Jr.* are comprised of various materials. In fact, the *Duboc, Jr.* patent teaches that the ceramics are preferred because of their pliability in the unfired state (See col. 12, lines 15-24). No evidence is provided in either the *Duboc, Jr.* patent or other prior art of record that the insulation layer of *Duboc, Jr.* is an SiO₂ layer. Even if this evidence does exist, the Patent Office has not articulated how the *Duboc, Jr.* patent would maintain operability with an insulation layer as such. The above being representative of Applicants' position, Applicants' submit that the *Duboc, Jr.* patent fails to render claims 2-6 obvious.

Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-6 are allowable, and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request a favorable examination and consideration of the instant application. In the event the instant application can be placed in even better form, Applicants request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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